



National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior

Rocky Mountain National Park

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Rocky Mountain National Park Fire Management

September 2003

United States of America
Department of Interior
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain National Park



Pay To the Order of: **Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department**
The sum of: **\$14,000.00**
Fourteen Thousand Dollars and no cents

Rocky Mountain National Park Distributes Federal Funding to Local Volunteer Fire Departments

Rocky Mountain National Park is distributing \$39,000 in federal funding to assist four local volunteer fire departments. As part of the National Fire Plan, the Rural Fire Assistance program is designed to increase firefighter safety, enhance the fire protection capabilities of rural fire departments and assist surrounding communities.

This is the largest combined distribution amount awarded to the four eligible fire departments since the program was enacted three years ago. Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department will receive \$14,000, Grand Lake VFD has been awarded \$10,000, Glen Haven VFD will get \$9,000 and Allenspark VFD will obtain \$4,000 in funding. To date over \$89,000 of Rural Fire Assistance funding has been distributed locally.

"Volunteer fire departments provide an invaluable service to Rocky Mountain National Park. The funding will help these smaller rural departments to get the additional training and equipment they might need not only to help the park out, but also to help their communities," said Superintendent Vaughn Baker."

The Rural Fire Assistance program is operated on a cost-share basis. Fire departments serving a community with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants are eligible for funding and must contribute a 10 percent share of the grant total, including in-kind labor. Fire departments use the funds to purchase wildland fire equipment and supplies or to conduct training.

"This program has greatly expanded our partnership with Rocky Mountain National Park and benefited this community as a whole," said Estes Park Fire Chief Scott Dorman. "This is a real win-win program and we are pleased to be a part of it."

Through a separate grant program, the National Park Service has also awarded the Colorado State Forest Service \$25,000 to help coordinate interagency fire education and outreach programs in local communities.